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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

FRANK WORDEN HOBBS, JR.

APPLICATION NO: UNKNOWN

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: AMINO-THIO-ACRYLONITRILES AS MEK INHIBITORS

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Before line 4 of page 1, insert the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of application serial no. 09/527,335, filed March 17, 2000 now allowed, which claims the benefit of provisional application 60/125,330 filed March 19, 1999, the contents of each of the above are hereby incorporated by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Patent Department P.O. Box 4000 Princeton, NJ 08543-4000 (609) 252-4379

Date: October 30, 2003

Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 39,408